

**NORTH KINGSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 16, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Dan Goba** of **North Kingstown High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Goba is the fifth Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from North Kingstown High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Goba as Rhode Island's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Goba joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.), Jacob Shaffelburg (2017-18, Berkshire School, Mass.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire School, Mass.) and Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.).

The 6-foot-4, 190-pound senior forward led the Skippers to an 18-1 record and a trip to the Division I state championship game this past season. Goba scored at least one goal in every game and led the state with 30 goals. He added 15 assists en route to earning Division I Player of the Year honors.

Goba has volunteered locally with the North Kingstown High School Best Buddies program, which seeks to combat the isolation of people with physical and intellectual challenges. He also has donated his time as the organizer and host of a bake sale, held at a North Kingstown High School girls volleyball match, which raised more than \$500 for the Special Olympics. "He was the hardest player in the state to play against," said Alex Armstrong, South Kingstown High School head coach. "In the state final, I had my two center backs go in front and in back of him all game. He is the hardest player I have prepared for in my five years as a part of our staff."

Goba has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Salve Regina University this fall, where he will play soccer.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Goba joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Players of the Year Michael Hofstetter (2021-22, La Salle Academy), Nathan Lagoa (2020-21, La Salle Academy), Roy Barrios (2019-20, Tolman High School), and Luis Blanco (2018-19, Tolman High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).